

Course Policy SM311P Math Methods 2003

INSTRUCTOR: Larry Tankersley, Professor

OFFICE: Ricketts 305

OFFICE HOURS: MWF5 or by arrangement

PHONE: 3-6653

Class: MWThF12

RESEARCH: Tues, all day

TEXT: Boas: Mathematical methods

COURSE OBJECTIVES: To understand mathematical representations of physical situations
 To study basic vector space concepts
 To apply the methods of linear algebra including eigenvalue problems
 To apply the concepts and methods of vector calculus

COURSE GRADE:	Homework	33 1/3%
	Hour Tests + Long Quiz	33 1/3%
	Final Exam	33 1/3%
	Short Quizzes and Class Participation up to 10% of daily	
	Total scaled to 100%	

HOMEWORK: Problem assignments will be made for each class meeting; those problems being due at the beginning of the next class. Please work with and assist your classmates. DO NOT simply copy problems. All solutions will use full vector notation and technique. Units are required. The goal is to develop new methods and understanding, not just to get the answer in the back of the book. Prepare prose statements of answers using the terms of each problem. **All multiple page assignments must be stapled. Your name and section number should be in an upper corner of the first page.** Homework submitted after your instructor has started grading the set may be penalized or rejected. You must solve the homework problems thoughtfully in order to perform well on the tests. **Note:** I am a source of helpful hints. Hints may be requested by email.

HANDOUTS: I hope they help. I wrote them. The astute student will read them. Please submit your corrections and suggestions. (I cannot type.) Please suggest topics for additional handouts, particularly those related to math methods. **I am preparing new math methods handouts. Please provide your feedback.**

TESTS: Tests are to be taken on the scheduled dates during the class period. You must inform me **before** you miss a test. Makeup tests are *slightly* more difficult than the regular ones.

EXTRA INSTRUCTION: I like it. You should take advantage of it. EI can cover math skills and other related topics. You may find EI of interest even if you are able to complete all assigned problems. MWF5: I am probably in my office, but you must schedule EI to be certain.

THE WEB: Start at: <http://physics.usna.edu/>. Expand to: mathworld.wolfram.com and scienceworld.wolfram.com.